

Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tab 11

Background:

Minutes of the February 10, 2017, Public Policy Committee meeting are included for your review.

Public Policy Committee — Agenda Item 3

Expected Action:

The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING February 10, 2017 MINUTES — DRAFT

Committee Members Present

Lora Taylor, Committee Chair
Hunter Adkins
Zaccheus Ahonle, UT – CDS
Lisa Akers-Owen, HHSC,
Older Americans Act
Kristine Clark
Stephen Gersuk
Ruth Mason
Michael Peace
Meagan Sumbera, TAMU –
CDD

Council Members Present

Kristen Cox, Council Vice
Chair

Guests Present

Jan Brown
Ted Johnson
Alexandra Noble
Sue Fielder, HHSC
Rona Statman

Staff Present

Ashley Ford
Linda Logan
Jessica Ramos
Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director

Committee Members Absent

Mary Faithfull, DRTx
Brandon Pharris
Jami Snyder, HHSC, Title
XIX/Medicaid

Call To Order

The Public Policy Committee convened on Friday, February 10, 2017 in Cedar/Cherry Room at the Holiday Inn Austin Midtown, 6000 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin, TX 78752. Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor called those present to order at 8:34 a.m.

1. Introductions

Chair Taylor asked the Committee members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves and where they are from.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered to the Committee.

3. Consideration of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the November 3, 2016, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the November 3, 2016, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MADE BY: Ruth Mason

SECOND: Hunter Adkins

The motion **passed** without opposition. Stephen Gersuk abstained.

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Taylor reviewed absences and reported on the recent events that she attended, including a caregiving seminar hosted by the Department of State Health Services and a medicinal cannabis conference. Taylor encouraged committee members to share what was discussed during their legislative visits during member updates.

5. Member Updates

Committee members who visited with legislative offices on Thursday February 9, 2017 briefed the Committee regarding what was discussed during their visits. Policy issues discussed included meaningful day activities, employment initiatives, state supported living center (SSLC) consolidation and closure, day habilitation reform, and community living services and supports. Agency representatives also provided the Committee with updates regarding recent activities at their respective agencies.

6. Disproportionalities and Disparities Discussion

The Committee discussed TCDD strategies and potential collaborations with advocacy organizations to address disproportionality and disparities regarding English Language Learners who may be eligible to receive special education services in accordance with TCDD's State Plan Objective 2.3.

Public Policy Director Jessica Ramos informed the Committee that the Texas Developmental Disability (DD) Network Partners applied to attend the Disparity Leadership Academy offered by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). Texas applied to participate in the Academy with a goal of enhancing both individual and collaborative leadership skills that will foster long-term system change that is necessary to address disproportionality related to English Language Learners who may be eligible to receive special education services. If selected the team will be comprised of one member from TCDD, one from each Texas University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (University of Texas and Texas A&M University), and one from Disability Rights Texas.

7. Public Policy Staff Activities

The Committee received updates from staff regarding recent state policy issues and staff activities including:

- A. TCDD's priority bill list,
- B. TCDD's summary on the Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities Accessible Parking Report,
- C. Public Comment to Texas Workforce Commission regarding the State Use Program,
- D. Center for Public Policy Priorities Testimony: Senate Finance Committee regarding Senate Bill 1, Proposed funding for Texas Health and Human Services Commission Proposed Medicaid Funding Cuts.

Committee members referenced binder and handout folder materials compiled by staff for each update.

The Committee received updates from staff regarding SSLCs including a staff summary of the Rider 21 Cost Comparison Report and the Joint Public Comment with Disability Rights Texas to Department of Aging and Disability Services regarding Supported Decision-Making in SSLCs. Committee members referenced binder and handout folder materials compiled by staff for each update.

The Committee received updates from staff regarding recent federal policy issues including the letter from United States Department of Education to Congressman Doggett regarding Early Childhood Intervention program provider withdrawal in Texas.

8. Other Discussion Items

No other items were discussed by the Committee.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Committee Chair Lora Taylor adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date